

### **Introducing Watersheds**

Come join us in the many engaging, hands on activities that can be used to help students understand what a watershed is and how human impacts play a role in the health of the watershed. Participants will receive the book *Discover a Watershed: The Watershed Manager*.

Date: Friday, March 9

Location: Trillium House, Wintergreen Resort

Fee: \$10 (Must be postmarked by Feb. 28)

### **Methods for Teaching Biological Assessment of Stream Health**

Don't want all the students stomping around in the stream? Have special needs students that can't get in the stream? Learn some of the many other methods of biological assessment such as leaf packs, a stream table and a stream side portable pond. Participants will receive *the Leaf Pack Manual* from the Stroud Water Research Center.

Date: Wednesday, April 4

Location: Green Adventure Project, Charlottesville

Fee: \$10 (Must be postmarked by March 24)

### **Freshwater Wetlands Investigation**

What makes freshwater wetlands unique? Learn how and why freshwater wetlands play such important roles in water quality and for living resources. Learn to identify key species while spending time exploring freshwater marshes on foot and by canoe. Participants will receive the book *The Wonders of Wetlands*.

Date: May 2

Location: James River State Park, Buckingham County

Fee: \$10 (Must be postmarked by April 20)

### **Coastal Wetlands Investigation**

Why are coastal wetlands considered the most endangered parts of our ecosystem? Learn how and why wetlands play such important roles in water quality and for living resources. Learn to identify key species while spending time exploring salt and brackish marshes on a remote island in the Chesapeake Bay. This field course will be based at Port Isobel, an education facility owned and operated by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, and located near Tangier Island in the middle of the Chesapeake.

Date: Monday and Tuesday, June 4 and 5

Location: Port Isobel. Meet at the Smith Point Marina for the boat.

Overnight Lodging and meals will be provided.

Deposit: \$50 (Must be received by April 6. Deposit will be returned upon arrival at workshop)

**You must have attended a minimum of three other workshops to be eligible for this workshop.**

## 2011-2012 Watershed Educators Institute

*The Watershed Educators Institute is a series of one and two day workshops offered from September 2011 through June of 2012 for those desiring to be formally recognized as leaders in watershed education in the state of Virginia.*



*Required pre-requisite for all participants:*

### **What is an effective MWEE?**

Being able to understand and define a meaningful watershed educational experience is the first step in becoming a watershed educator. This half hour on-line course will ensure that you are starting your Watershed Educator certification with a firm foundation and clear understanding. The reading will be followed by a few questions. By answering these questions you will indicate that you are ready to move through the Watershed Educator's Institute. Please go to <http://www.bayeducation.net/MBE.pdf> for the required reading. You will be emailed the link and a username and password for the questions after you register.



Lunch and snacks will be provided at all workshops.

Checks should be made out to "VRUEC" and sent to DEQ, P.O. Box 1105, Richmond, VA 23218. Attn: Page Hutchinson. Please make note of the post marked dates for payment for each workshop.

To complete the Institute each participant must attend a minimum of five day-long workshops. Upon completion the participant will receive a Certificate of Recognition as a Watershed Leader for the state of Virginia. The following is a brief description of the workshops being held including their dates and locations.

For more information, contact Page Hutchinson at 804-698-4488 or [Page.Hutchinson@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:Page.Hutchinson@deq.virginia.gov)

To register for a workshop, visit [www.surveymonkey.com/s/watershededstitute](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/watershededstitute)

### ***Assessing the Health of a Watershed – Part 1***

What does the dissolved oxygen or pH level indicate about the health of a stream? What do macro invertebrates indicate about the health of a stream? During this workshop you will come to understand the many facets that indicate the health of a watershed through chemical and biological assessment. Participants will receive the *Healthy Water, Healthy People Educator's Guide* and *Field Testing Manual*.

Date: Tuesday, September 27

Location: Claytor Nature Study Center, Lynchburg

Fee: \$10 (Must be postmarked by Sept. 16)

### ***Assessing the Health of a Watershed – Part 2***

Are there ways to teach students about riparian zones, point and nonpoint source pollution, run off, impervious surfaces, and land use without boring lectures? You bet there are! Join us for a day of exploration and inquiry based activities.

Participants who did not receive the *Healthy Water, Healthy People Educator's Guide* and *Field Testing Manual in Part 1* will receive the set in this workshop.

Date: Tuesday, October 25

Location: Twin Lakes State Park, near Farmville

Fee: \$10 (Must be postmarked by Oct. 14)

### ***Designing and Leading a MWEE for School Groups***

This workshop will provide a framework for developing effective **teacher-led** MWEEs that result in specific student driven action projects. Together we will explore the three phases of preparation, action and reflection. In the afternoon you will have a chance to begin planning your own seasonal or yearlong action project. Plenty of resources and guidance will be available. Participants will receive CBFs *Guide to Creating a MWEE* and U.S. Fish and Wildlife's *Schoolyard Habitat Project Guide*.

Date: Wednesday, November 30

Location: Forestry Dept., Charlottesville

Fee: \$10 (Must be postmarked by Nov. 19)

### ***Project Wet***

Have you always wondered what Project Wet was all about? Here's your chance to learn about and participate in many Wet activities that will support your MWEEs and water education in general. Participants will receive the new *Project Wet Curriculum and Activity Guide*. (Note: This is not facilitator training, but a workshop to acquaint you with Project Wet activities.)

Date: Thursday, January 18

Location: Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center, Appomattox

Fee: \$10 (Must be postmarked by Jan. 6)

### ***Designing and Leading a Professional Development Workshop for Educators with Facilitator Training***

Are you interested in training other educators both formal and nonformal? Then this two day workshop is the one for you. The first day will focus on what makes a good workshop, learning styles, questioning skills, knowing your audience, and more. On the second day you will receive facilitator training in either *Project Wet* or *Project WILD's Science and Civics: Sustaining Wildlife*. You will receive the guides and other materials associated with the curriculum you choose. **Completing this training commits you to conducting at least one workshop for educators in the next year.**

Date: Thursday, February 2 and Friday, February 3

Location: Bear Creek State Park, Cumberland

Overnight lodging and meals provided. Lodging is for Feb. 1 and Feb. 2.

Deposit: \$50 (Must be received by Jan. 13. Deposit will be returned upon arrival at workshop)